IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re U.S. Patent Application of	)
	)
GOLD *et al.*	)
	)
Application Number: To be Assigned	)
	)
Filed Concurrently Herewith	)
	)
For: AGGREGATION OF MULTIPLE HEADLESS COMPUTER ENTITIES INTO A SINGLE COMPUTER ENTITY GROUP	)

Honorable Assistant Commissioner
for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to an examination on the merits, please amend the above-captioned application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace the below claims as follows:

3. (Amended.) The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising the step of: entering at least one said setting data via a web interface.

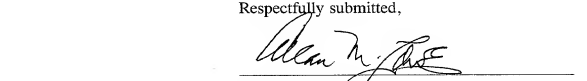
12. (Amended.) The method as claimed in claim 9, wherein each said computer entity comprises a headless computer entity.

REMARKS

Applicants have amended the claims in order to remove the multiple dependencies contained therein and thereby reduce the basic filing fee. No new matter has been added to the application as a result of this amendment.

Prompt and favorable action on the merits of this application is earnestly solicited. Kindly direct any inquiries to the undersigned at the below-listed address and telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,



Allan M. Lowe
Registration Number 19,641

LOWE HAUPTMAN GILMAN & BERNER, LLP
1700 Diagonal Road
Suite 310
Alexandria, Virginia 22314
(703) 684-1111

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said step of setting a plurality of configuration settings comprises setting a plurality of application settings to a common value across each of said plurality of computer entities.

3. The method as claimed in claim 1 or 2 further comprising the step of:

entering at least one said setting data via a web interface.

4. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein a said master computer entity comprises a database storing a plurality of said configuration settings.

5. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein a said master computer entity stores a database containing a list of a plurality of said computer entities within a group.

6. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein a said configuration setting is selected from the set:

a schedule setting;

a retention setting;

an exclude setting;

an authorised right setting;

a limit setting;

a quota setting;

a data file definition setting;

assigning at least one other said computer entity to be a slave computer entity within said group;

said master computer entity applying at least one configuration setting to a said corresponding respective slave computer entity in said same group, to set said slave computer entity is to provide an equivalent functionality to a user as said master computer entity.

10. The method as claimed in claim 9, wherein said master computer entity of said group operates as a slave computer entity for a further group.

11. The method as claimed in claim 9, wherein said slave computer entity of said group operates as a slave computer entity in a second group.

12. The method as claimed in any one of claims 9 to 11 wherein each said computer entity comprises a headless computer entity.

13. The method as claimed in claim 9, further comprising the step of:

checking whether a said slave computer entity has a same security mode setting as said master computer entity.

14. The method as claimed in claim 9, further comprising the step of:

checking whether a said slave computer entity has a same security mode setting as said master computer entity; and

if said slave computer entity does not have a same security mode setting as said master computer entity, then rejecting assigning of said slave computer entity to be a slave computer entity within said group.